Setting up of a Rural Insurance Corporation

764. SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the relevant aspects of a Rural Insurance Corporation in the country for the benefit of rural masses; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) The Rural Insurance Schemes which are currently in force are being operated through the General Insurance Corporation of India and its four subsidiaries viz. National Insurance Co. Ltd., New India Assurance Co. Ltd., Oriental Insurance Co. Ltd. and United India Insurance Co. Ltd. It has been found that, for the Schemes presently in force, the machinery of the GIC and its subsidiaries is adequate. A separate Rural based organisation exclusively for Rural Insurance Schemes does not appear to be warranted, at present.

Lady Doctor in the LIC panel not allowed to see the male patient

765. SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA JAYAWANTRAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Lady Doctors, on the panel of the LIC, are not allowed to attend the male patients of the LIC;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof; and

(c) what is the exact number of Lady Doctors presently on the panel of Life Insurance Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b) In view of the detailed medical examination required to be done, the general practice has, since long been to have medical examination of male proposers by male doctors only. Lady doctors' services are availed of with advantage in examining female lives. In view of the large number of male doctors available, the need for a male proposer presenting himself to a female doctor does not arise.

(c) Statistics have to be collected from more than 1280 branches spread over 389 districts throughout India. The efforts involved in collecting the required information would not be commensurate with the results.

Opening of branches of Nationalised Banks

766. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of branches of nationalised banks opened in the country during the last financial year, Statewise; and

(b) what is the amount of money deposited in the nationalised Banks along with the number of depositors during the last financial year and what were the corresponding figures during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that as per the available information during the period from 1-4-1987 to 31.3.1988 Public Sector Banks have opened 810 branches